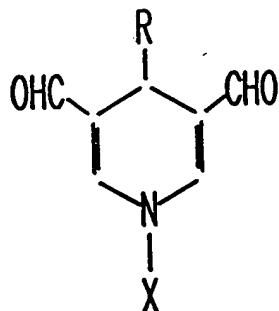


collecting a biological sample; and
assaying for the presence of a hybrid malondialdehyde-
acetaldehyde protein adduct, said adduct having the
following formula:



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wherein X is a peptide or protein containing an active lysine residue; and R is selected from the group consisting of a lower C₁ to C₆ alkyl group, benzyl, and hydrogen.

24.

A method according to claim 23 further providing that X contains an active lysine residue.

25.

The method of claim 23 wherein said method detection is by fluorescence detection at 397 nm.

26.

The method of claim 23 wherein said detection is by an immunoassay comprising an antibody which recognizes a MAA